

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 4-20 are pending in the application. Claims 18-20 are newly added. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 7, 11-14 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by European Patent Application EP 1164367 A2 to Yamashita, hereafter Yamashita.

This rejection is traversed. Yamashita lacks a “mouldable substantially rigid optical light guide”, which “includes a structural feature to facilitate interception of the light from the main optical path” as recited in independent claim 7. The Examiner reads the recited mouldable substantially rigid optical light guide on Yamashita’s element 40, which is described in paragraph [0018] as an “optical fiber 10”. An optical fiber is not “mouldable”, but rather is extrudable and is not rigid, but rather is flexible. Therefore, Yamashita lacks the recited mouldable substantially rigid optical light guide and the rejection is erroneous.

The Examiner does not identify any feature of optical fiber 40 that could qualify as a “structural feature to facilitate interception of the light from the main optical path” as recited in independent claim 7. The structural feature is disclosed as angled facets 314 and 315 at page 5, lines 19 and 20, of Applicant’s specification and shown in Figs. 3-5 of Applicant’s drawing. Therefore, Yamashita lacks the recited structural feature and the rejection is erroneous.

With respect to claim 17, The Examiner does not identify the recited “fiducial to facilitate alignment”. Applicant has been unable to find any such teaching in Yamashita. Therefore, Yamashita lacks the recited fiducial and the rejection is erroneous.

For the reason set forth above, it is submitted that the rejection of claims 7, 11-14 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Yamashita is erroneous and should be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 2, 4-6 and 10 under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as unpatentable over Yamashita in view of U.S Patent No. 6,647,184 to Ukechi et al., hereafter Ukechi.

This rejection is traversed. Neither Yamashita nor Ukechi discloses or teaches a “mouldable substantially rigid optical light guide”, which “includes a structural feature to facilitate interception of the light from the main optical path” as recited in independent claim 1. Yamashita lacks these elements for the reasons set forth above in the discussion of independent claim 7, which also recites the same elements. Ukechi, which was cited to show two separate substrates, does not disclose or teach these elements. Therefore, the combination of Yamashita and Ukechi does not contain a “mouldable substantially rigid optical light guide”, which “includes a structural feature to facilitate interception of the light from the main optical path” as recited in independent claim 1. Accordingly, the rejection is erroneous.

With respect to claim 10, the Examiner refers to wave guide 46 in Fig. 9 as having a fiducial, but there is no wave guide 46 in Fig. 9. Applicant has been unable to find any such teaching in Yamashita. Therefore, Yamashita lacks the recited fiducial and the rejection is erroneous.

For the reasons set forth above, it is submitted that the rejection of claims 1, 2, 4-6 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is erroneous and should be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claims 15 and 16 under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as unpatentable over Yamashita (as cited above) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,774,486 to Jiang et al., hereafter Jiang.

This rejection is erroneous for the reasons set forth above in the discussion of independent claim 7, from which dependent claims 15 and 16 depend. That is, Yamashita lacks a "mouldable substantially rigid optical light guide", which "includes a structural feature to facilitate interception of the light from the main optical path" as recited in independent claim 7. Jiang, which was cited to show a beam splitter and a stable, low absorption plastic, does not supply the deficiency of Yamashita.

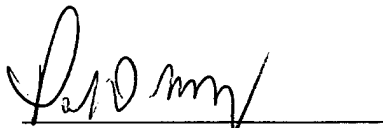
For the reasons set forth above, it is submitted that the rejection of claims 15 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is erroneous and should be withdrawn.

Newly presented claims 18 and 19 recite that the structural feature comprises "an angled facet". Yamashita, Ukechi or Jiang, taken separately or in combination do not teach this feature. Newly presented claim 20 recites that the first substrate contains optical feed through of the small proportion of light without any electrical feed through and that the second substrate contains optical feed through of the small proportion of light and electrical feed through from the photodetector. Yamashita, Ukechi or Jiang, taken separately or in combination do not teach this feature. Accordingly, it is submitted that new claims 18-20 distinguish from the cited art and are, therefore, allowable.

It is respectfully requested for the reasons set forth above that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. 103(a) be withdrawn, that claims 1, 2 and 4-20 be allowed and that this application be passed to issue.

Respectfully Submitted,

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